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June 22, 1998

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Mr. Rick Breitenbach
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments Regarding the CALFED Bay/Delta Program EIR/EIS (March 1998)

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Calleguas Municipal Water District, I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments with respect to the CALFED Bay/Delta Program EIS/EIR.

CALFED staff, under the direction of Executive Director Lester Snow, as well as other participants in the Bay/Delta planning process are to be commended for their efforts. In spite of the inherent difficulties in reaching a consensus among such a diverse group of competing interests, we believe that CALFED has achieved considerable success in outlining viable solutions to Bay/Delta issues. While we consider the CALFED process the best, and perhaps last, opportunity to develop a comprehensive solution that will benefit all stakeholders, certain assurances must first be provided before Calleguas could support the costly implementation of a preferred alternative.

First and foremost, a truly reliable supply of high quality water must be provided. For decades, Calleguas along with other urban users of State water have spent exorbitant sums of money for a water supply that has deteriorated to such a level that water agencies must expend even more funds to develop other water management programs in the quest for reliability. Indeed, due to the continuing uncertainty of State water supplies, Calleguas is developing a \$100 million groundwater storage program that will provide for the pre-delivery and storage of up to 300,000 acre feet of surplus State water in Ventura County. Additionally, as a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District, Calleguas has contributed to regional investments including Metropolitan's \$2 billion Eastside Reservoir. These as well as other substantial investments by other Metropolitan member agencies should be recognized in the CALFED process and considered elements of a Bay/Delta

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solution, with the implementing entities receiving due credit towards any future CALFED investments.

Moreover, in light of growing concern over water quality issues, particularly total dissolved solids, total organic carbon, and bromide levels, a CALFED solution must ensure higher water quality for drinking water consumption, groundwater recharge, and recycled water development. Source water protection programs within the Bay/Delta are an essential element of CALFED's water quality program and must move forward without delay. Absent such measures, southern California urban water suppliers will have few, if any, alternatives to investing hundreds of millions of dollars in advanced treatment technologies as more stringent regulations are promulgated. Such expenditures, and the consequent increase in water rates, would undoubtedly have a debilitating effect on California's economy.

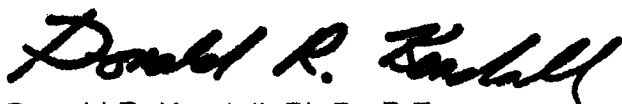
With respect to the various alternatives, we believe Alternative No. 3 is the only suitable option for achieving, to the greatest degree, all of CALFED's objectives -- environmental restoration, water supply reliability, water quality improvements, and levee system integrity. As described in Figure 4.2 of the EIS/EIR, Alternative No. 3 would:

- maximize water circulation within the Delta,
- minimize diversion effects on fisheries,
- improve export water quality, and
- provide increased water supply opportunities and greater operational flexibility

Lastly, the allocation of costs for the various elements of a CALFED solution must be equitable. The financial burden cannot be placed entirely on urban water agencies. All parties should be expected to pay their fair share for benefits received.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on this unique and vital process. We are encouraged by CALFED's progress over the previous four years and look forward to the opportunity to participate further in the development of fair and equitable remedies for the Bay/Delta.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Kendall, Ph.D., P.E.
General Manager

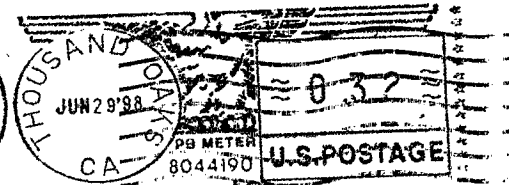
cc: Senator Cathie Wright
Senator Jack O'Connell
Assemblyman Nao Takasugi
Assemblyman Tom McClintock



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